

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA

SUBJECT: UNGA SPECIAL SESSION: GUIDANCE ON POSSIBLE
DRAFT AGENDA

REF: USUN 1492

1. WE HAVE APPRECIATED USUN'S REPORTS ON CONSULTATIONS
IN NEW YORK, BOTH WITH INDIVIDUAL LDC DELEGATIONS AND
WITHIN PREPCOM CONTEXT. WE BELIEVE THESE CONTACTS ARE
ESSENTIAL FOR MAINTAINING FLEXIBILITY IN SITUATION AS WE
MOVE TOWARDS JUNE PREPCOM AND 7TH SPECIAL SESSION ITSELF.
WHILE APPRECIATING NATURE OF PREPCOM MANDATE, E.G.
ADOPTION OF PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR SPECIAL SESSION,
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PROBLEMS WE ARE DEALING WITH REQUIRE THAT OUR WORK NOT
BE STRAIT-JACKETED BY RIGID FORMULAS. THIS MEANS, AS
USUN HAS ARGUED, THAT U.S. MUST MAKE OWN CONTRIBUTION TO
DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANTIVE NATURE OF SESSION, AS WELL AS

SEEK MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN ASPECTS G-77 APPROACH.

2. WE WELCOME "PROVISIONAL LIST" CONTAINED REF A AS A SIGNIFICANT EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE GROUP OF 77 TO MOVE AWAY FROM ALL-ENCOMPASSING CONSIDERATION OF BROAD SPECTRUM OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND FOCUS

ON LIMITED NUMBER OF PROBLEM AREAS. LIST HOWEVER SUFFERS FROM TWO GENERAL DEFECTS: (A) IT CONTINUES TO COVER TOO MANY BROAD AREAS (SEVEN BY OUR COUNT); AND (B) IN ITS LANGUAGE IT IN FACT PREJUDGES ANSWERS TO PROBLEMS RATHER THAN STATING THE PROBLEMS THEMSELVES.

3. IN REACTING TO G-77 PROPOSAL MISSION SHOULD STATE THAT USG BELIEVES THAT FOLLOWING FIVE PROBLEM AREAS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED, ON PRELIMINARY BASIS, AS AGENDA FOR PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF GA DELIBERATION:

- (A) INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY TRADE
- (B) INTERNATIONAL FOOD NEEDS
- (C) TRANSFER OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES
- (D) PROBLEMS OF THE POORER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
- (E) STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE UN SYSTEM

WE PREFER TO KEEP POTENTIAL AGENDA HEADINGS AS GENERAL AS POSSIBLE. CLEARLY, GOVERNMENTS AT SPECIAL SESSION WILL COVER ENTIRE RANGE OF ISSUES DELINEATED BY AGENDA (IF NOT MORE). ADDING SPECIFICITY TO AGENDA LANGUAGE IS ESSENTIALLY EFFORT TO PRE-COOK THE OUTCOME. WE BELIEVE THAT TO A SIGNIFICANT EXTENT OUR PROPOSAL OVERLAPS WITH THAT OF G-77 INsofar AS LATTER IMPLICITLY IDENTIFIES PROBLEM AREAS RATHER THAN PROPOSING SOLUTIONS.

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4. IN PARTICULAR ITEMS 1A AND B OF G-77 LIST (COMMODITY MARKET AND INDEXATION) IS SUBSUMED IN ITEM (A) ABOVE. HOWEVER, WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT COMMODITY PROBLEMS ARE AREA OF SPECIAL CONCERN, WE DO NOT ACCEPT THAT ANSWER TO THIS PROBLEM IS "REGULATION...THROUGH INTEGRATED APPROACH" OR INDEXATION, AS G-77 TEXT IMPLIES.

5. QUESTION OF "ACCESS TO MARKETS" (ITEM 1C) MOVES BEYOND COMMODITIES TO AREA OF TRADE IN MANUFACTURES. WE DOUBT THE WISDOM OF EXPANDING THE AGENDA TO INCLUDE THIS ELEMENT. WE DO NOT QUESTION IMPORTANCE OF ACCESS

TO MARKETS ISSUE. HOWEVER, IT IS UNDER NEGOTIATION IN MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN) AND GOVERNMENTS HAVE ALREADY ADOPTED GUIDELINES FOR THOSE NEGOTIATIONS

IN TOKYO DECLARATION. BEFORE MAKING A DECISION ON INCLUSION OF THE TOPIC IN AGENDA, WE WOULD WISH JUSTIFICATION OF WHY IT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED OUTSIDE MTN FRAMEWORK.

6. ITEM 2(A) ON THE TRANSFER OF REAL RESOURCES COINCIDES IN CONCEPT WITH OUR PROPOSED ITEM. PROBLEM IS MEETING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE NEEDS OF LDCS. WE DO NOT ACCEPT AT THIS POINT THE IMPLIED ANSWERS CONTAINED IN G-77 PROPOSAL OF "AUTOMATIC MECHANISMS" OR OF CHANNELING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE THROUGH UN SPECIAL FUND. WE SEE DEBT PROBLEMS AS ONLY ONE ELEMENT IN QUESTION AND NOT WARRANTING SINGLING OUT IN ANY DRAFT AGENDA. SIMILARLY, IF ITEM 2 A (IV) IS INTENDED TO REFER TO TRIANGULAR AID ARRANGEMENTS, AS IN EARLIER DRAFT, WE WOULD CONSIDER THIS TO BE IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN MEETING LDC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS IN FUTURE BUT FEEL DISCUSSIONS AT THIS STAGE SHOULD NOT REACH THIS LEVEL OF SPECIFICITY.

7. WE BELIEVE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY REFORM (ITEM 2 B) SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED ON AGENDA. THERE IS LITTLE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO LDCS IN THIS AREA CAN BE MADE OUTSIDE OF IMF CONTEXT. EITHER QUESTION SHOULD BE DROPPED FROM AGENDA OR LDCS SHOULD FROM BEGINNING BE AWARE THAT CONCLUSIONS WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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NEED TO BE CONSISTENT WITH DECISIONS BEING TAKEN IN IMF CONTEXT. (LAST TWO REGULAR GA SESSIONS SAW CONSENSUS ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS ON MONETARY REFORM WHICH MET THIS CRITERION.)

8. WE BELIEVE THAT "SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY" IS SUCH A BROAD AREA AS TO SAY LITTLE FOR THE WORK OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. IF BY THIS HEADING LDCS MEAN THEIR SPECIFIC CONCERNS WITH THE QUESTION OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, IN PARTICULAR THE ROLE OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, WE WOULD URGE THAT CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUE BE POSTPONED IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHILE WORK IN THIS AREA PROCEEDS IN UNCTAD AND WIPO. WE COULD AGREE TO ITS INCLUSION AT LDC INSISTENCE, HOWEVER.

9. SIMILARLY, AGENDA HEADING "INDUSTRIALIZATION" EITHER MEANS TOO MUCH--REDOING THE LIMA CONFERENCE--OR TOO LITTLE--MERELY ENDORSING CONCLUSIONS OF LIMA CONFERENCE. WE RECOGNIZE LDCS WANT 7SS TO TAKE ACTION ON DRAFT STATUTES CONVERTING UNIDO INTO SPECIALIZED AGENCY. WE

PREFER THAT THIS MATTER BE DEFERRED, BUT HAVE CONCURRED

IN IDB OMNIBUS RESOLUTION (VIENNA 3724) WHICH PROPOSES, INTER ALIA, THAT DRAFT STATUTES "MAY BE SUBMITTED" BY SECRETARY GENERAL TO 7SS.

10. WE WOULD BE HAPPY IF G-77 AGREED THAT ADOPTION LAST YEAR OF DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION AND CERDS CLEARED THE WAY FOR UN MEMBERSHIP TO FOCUS AT 7SS ON SEARCH FOR PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO LIMITED NUMBER OF CRITICAL PROBLEMS. WE ARE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT G-77--MORE RADICAL AMONG THEM, AT LEAST--WILL PERSEVERE IN USING 7SS TO WIN GREATER ACCEPTANCE FOR NIEO RESOLUTIONS AND CERDS. OBVIOUSLY WE CANNOT ACCEPT ANY FORMULATION WHICH BINDS THE FUTURE ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO THE TERMS OF THOSE DOCUMENTS. G-77 AND WEO REPS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT G-77 INSISTENCE ON USING THESE RESOLUTIONS AS ACTUAL BASIS FOR 7SS DISCUSSIONS WILL CREATE IMMEDIATE PROCEDURAL OBSTACLE IN PATH OF CONSIDERATION OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

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11. DEPARTMENT REGRETS THAT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO "INFORMAL SESSIONS OF PREPCOM" AND THAT DISCUSSIONS IN THAT CONTEXT HAVE BEEN PUT OUT AS GOVERNMENTAL DECISIONS. USUN SHOULD MAKE CLEAR U.S. VIEW THAT WE ARE ENGAGED IN DISCUSSION PROCESS IN PREPARATIONS FOR JUNE PREPCOM AND ALL ISSUES REMAIN OPEN UNTIL PREPCOM MEETS. THUS CONSULTATIONS SHOULD NOT BE AIMED AT CONCLUDING A DRAFT AGENDA FOR "REVIEW" AT THE PREPCOM.

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